

DATA SHEET

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Tennessee
COUNTY:	Anderson
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	MAY 29 1975

1. NAME

COMMON:

Edwards-Fowler House

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION *3 1/2 mi S of Lake City*

STREET AND NUMBER:

Dutch Valley Road

CITY OR TOWN:

Lake City

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:

Second

STATE

Tennessee

CODE

47

COUNTY:

Anderson

CODE

001

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:

Sam Fowler

STREET AND NUMBER:

Dutch Valley Road

CITY OR TOWN:

Lake City

STATE:

Tennessee

CODE

47

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:

Anderson County Register's Office

STREET AND NUMBER:

Courthouse

CITY OR TOWN:

Clinton

STATE

Tennessee

CODE

47

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY:

☐ Federal☐ State☐ RECEIVED☐ Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

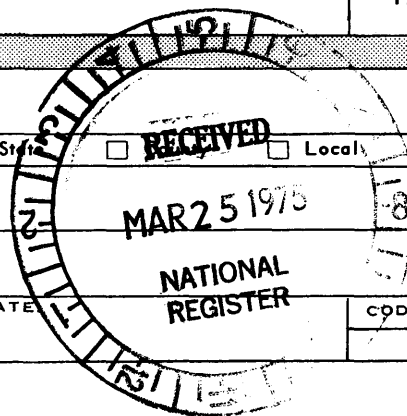
STATE

Tennessee

CODE

47

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:
TennesseeCOUNTY:
Anderson

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

☐ Excellent ☒ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Deteriorated ☐ Ruins ☐ Unexposed

(Check One)

☒ Altered ☐ Unaltered

(Check One)

☐ Moved ☒ Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Edwards-Fowler home is located in the Dutch Valley area of Anderson County. Directly behind the home rises Walden Ridge which separates the coal mining area of the county from the rural and urban areas.

The home, of Federal design, was built between 1835 and 1838 by slave labor. The slaves quarried the limestone for the basement and burned all the bricks for the house. Both the clay and the limestone were extracted from sites near the home. The exterior walls are 4 bricks thick and the interior walls 3 bricks thick. All walls with the exception of one wooden separation wall on the second floor are structural.

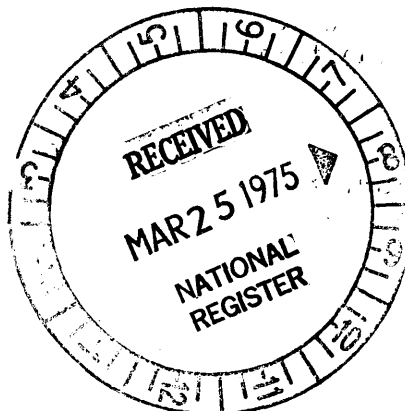
For the most part the house is in quite good shape, although some settling has occurred. The grounds have been well maintained. There are two large hemlocks and a large magnolia in the front yard, and in the side yard there is a male holly tree almost as tall as the house. There are several flower gardens as well as a vegetable garden on the grounds.

The interior has been worked on through the years and all the fireplaces with the exception of the large kitchen fireplace have been bricked up to keep the house from losing too much of its gas-supplied heat. The front portion of the house has full 14 foot ceilings in both the downstairs and the upstairs. In the back section, or the ell of the house, the original upstairs slave quarters have been extensively worked on by the Fowlers. The floors have been sanded down to their natural pine finish and the room has been decorated with pre-Civil War antique furniture.

Although the woodwork in the house is not particularly ornate, it is interesting to note that the mantels, closets, and trim are primarily done in cherry. On some of the closet doors the cherry board measures a full 18 inches across.

Both the front and back porches have been replaced several times. The roof of the front porch was built in the 1950's replacing an Italianate style roof. The back porch is in the process of being replaced.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



SIGNIFICANCE			
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1835-38			
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE			
<p>The Edwards-Fowler home is located in Anderson County which before the coming of TVA and Oak Ridge was one of the poorest counties in the State. The county is not blessed with particularly fertile soil and therefore was not developed very extensively. Also, much of Anderson County's heritage has been destroyed either through fire, "progress," or neglect. The Fowler home is the only pre-Civil War building left in the county which has maintained its basic integrity through the years.</p> <p>James Ross was the first white man to settle in the area, having moved from Virginia in the 1790's. His log cabin was a few hundred yards northeast of the Fowler home. In the early 1800's the Louisville-Nashville stagecoach line came through and Ross obtained the contract for overnight stays. From his profits Ross bought land, eventually acquiring over 1,000 acres. In the late 1820's Ross's daughter, Nicely, married a man named Edwards. As a wedding present James Ross gave his son-in-law about 300 acres of land and a number of slaves. It was on this land and with these slaves that Edwards began to build what is now the Edwards-Fowler home. The foundations of the slave cabins are still visible and there is a slave cemetery near the ridge in back of the house.</p> <p>All the material for the house was secured on site except the hardware and glass for the windows which came from Louisville. About one-third of the glass now in the house is original.</p> <p>The home remained in the Edwards family until the early 1900's when it was purchased by the East Tennessee Nursery Company. Sam Fowler, Sr., a partner in the firm, then moved in and it has been in the Fowler family since.</p> <p>The area soon became known as the Fowler Community because of the school which Sam Fowler started and taught. The school burned in 1929 and the house never regained its place as a center of social life in the area. It remains, however, as a landmark in the area, significant architecturally because it is the only example of early Federal architecture in the county.</p>			

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Goodspeed (Ed.), History of Tennessee, East Tennessee Edition
(Chicago and Nashville, 1887).
Seeber, Raymond, History of Anderson County, unpublished thesis.
Knoxville, 1928.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		36° 10' 18"	84° 10' 03"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 6

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Jon Coddington

ORGANIZATION: East Tennessee Development District

DATE: 6/17/74

STREET AND NUMBER:
1810 Lake Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Knoxville

STATE: Tennessee

CODE: 47

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☒

Name

Lauren C. [Signature]

Title

Executive Director
Tennessee Historical Commission

Date

3/20/75

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

[Signature]
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date

5/29/75

ATTEST:

[Signature]
Keeper of The National Register

Date

5.27.75

SEE INSTRUCTIONS